

Child and Family State Collaborative Subgroup
Revised Minutes for 4/20/01

Present Members: Martha Kaufman, (CFS) Charles Pryzant, (CFS) Stephanie Alexander, (CFS) Chuck Harris, (DSS) Alicia Graham, (DD) Joel Rosch, (GCC) Joan Debruyn, (CFS) Donn Hargrove, (DJJDP) Joann Lamm, (DSS) Diann Irwin, (DPI)

1. MOA:

Martha Kaufman asked Stephanie Alexander to begin the meeting by discussing MOA issues. The Group agreed that Stephanie Alexander would chair the MOA committee. The MOA will include DSS, MH, DPI (if approved), DJJDP. Other agencies/departments were suggested for inclusion, including Public Health, Developmental Disability and Substance Abuse. However, it was agreed that we would start with the four – way agreement. This does not preclude the possibility of individual agreements with these departments that could eventually be incorporated into one agreement. It was also stated that local agreements could certainly be made (and indeed, encouraged) between interested stakeholders. The Group decided to wait until pending budget decisions are made by the legislature before the committee starts the MOA process.

2. SOC Rollout Plan:

Martha Kaufman informed the group that Secretary Buell requested a draft SOC ‘Rollout Plan’ (‘what it would take’ to further SOC statewide), which has been provided to the Secretary. The group gave ideas to be considered. Once the Secretary has completed review of the plan, it will be brought back to the Collaborative, along with the Secretary’s feedback and recommendations for further discussion.

3. Questions:

(a) Can area programs use left over allocation dollars for special projects?

The group agreed that dollars should be spent on services to meet needs of eligible children as a first priority. It was recommended that spending on special projects be directly related to services.

(b) Respite Beds – Can we allow group homes to “hold” a bed for emergency respite without moving them to the next level (which is less dollars) of reimbursement?
Excellent idea, need to assess implications and implementation issues.

(c) Sandhills Center – They own a group home managed by Cardinal Center. Can they continue to contract with Cardinal to manage so as to have effective local oversight?
This appears disallowed under direct enrollment. Section staff will research further.

Stephanie Alexander selected these three questions as representative of many questions being asked. The Group agreed that a budget representative needs to join the group to assist in answering rate/budget related questions.

4. Training:

The Group needs to decide on a name to call the upcoming regional workshops. It was agreed that there is confusion about New Beginnings, At Risk and System of Care terminology. It was agreed that we begin using NC System of Care for At Risk Children. DSS volunteered to be responsible for coordinating the registration.

5. Agenda Items:

The Group had a discussion on adding the following items to the agenda.

- Structure: How are we doing on outcomes.
- How are the ARC procedures being utilized in the area programs?
- How to deal with frequently asked questions.
- Training: Need to identify places and dates.
- A budget person needs to be available at the trainings to answer questions regarding rates.